

## **MINUTES**

### **LIGHT BROWN APPLE MOTH ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY TASK FORCE MEETING**

**Wyndham Hotel**

**San Jose, CA**

**January 8, 2008**

#### Attendees:

Robert Leavitt	Helene Wright	Greg Van Wassenhove
Robert Dowell	Roxanne Broadway	Bryan Wilson
Duane Schnabel	Susan Monheit	Laurie Gibson
John Connell	Susan Ellis	Jim Cochran
Bob Wynn	Robert Falconer	Peggy Miars
Nick Condos	David Headrick	Dennis Davie
Jim Rains	Henrik Kibak	Chris Pavlos
William Roltsch	Camron King	Stephen Reed
Mike Pitcairn	Kevin O'Day	
Josilyn Hendricks	Jay Schreider	
Colleen Murphy-Vierra	Steve Shimek	
Karen Zirkle	Thomas Smith	
Deborra Murphy-Harris	Hadi Tabbara	
Charmaine Canlas	Patti TenBrook	
David Pegos	Rayne Thompson	

#### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Executive Secretary, Dr. Robert Leavitt, welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

#### **LBAM BIOCONTROL UPDATE**

Mr. William Roltsch provided an overview of biological control-based pest control programs, reviewing the potential use of native and non-native natural enemies such as wasps (*Trichogramma* spp.). He reported that when used in an augmentation program, native *Trichogramma* wasps reduce codling moth populations by 60%. If effective against LBAM, *Trichogramma* can be released into infested areas. Mr. Roltsch stated that CDFA scientists are working with university experts and experts in Australia to address the LBAM situation.

#### **PEST PREVENTION: INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR QUARANTINE**

Mr. Nick Condos presented an overview of the pest prevention system, which include various methods such as quarantines, detection, eradication, control, identification and records. Quarantines are used to exclude or contain a pest by preventing the artificial spread of a non-native species. According to Mr. Condos, many vegetables and fruits are exempt from quarantines. This is due to USDA jurisdiction and inspection practices because they have a less chance of acting as a transport vehicle since they are consumed rather than those that

are non-consumable (e.g. nursery plants). The Plant Protection Act gives CDFA and USDA the authority to quarantine, and California also has internal quarantine authority.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING**

Mr. Duane Schnabel, Primary State Agricultural Biologist, provided an overview of environmental monitoring of the aerial application of pheromones for the Light Brown Apple Moth. Mr. Schnabel discussed the scope of the monitoring project including: site selection, deposition medium, monitoring methodology, deposition card analysis and results. Environmental monitoring considerations were discussed such as product formulation, application methods, deposition cards, site security and safety, logistics (personnel, training, equipment), weather (wind velocity, wind direction, humidity, temperature), topography and project location. Mr. Schnabel provided an expanded discussion of the October 24–27, 2007, application for Monterey County as an example of the environmental monitoring program. The example included data collection for each site including date, site identification, inspector, site type, placement time, recovery time, description of placement and weather data. Mr. Schnabel also presented the environmental monitoring results from the Monterey County example. The final item for discussion were problems encountered during the project which included the legal label definition of water exclusion sites, weather, excessive moisture (ocean proximity) and vandalism.

### **INTRODUCTION OF SUSAN MONHEIT**

Marine biologist and risk assessor, Ms. Susan Monheit, has been contracted by CDFA through the University of California at Davis, Aquatic Ecosystems Analysis Laboratory, to review the Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM) Environmental Assessment (EA) and Screening Ecological Risk Assessment (SERA) for accuracy and the identification of data gaps. Ms. Monheit will also review the bioassay toxicity tests performed on the LBAM-specific pheromone, and will be revising the screening ecological risk assessment to look at risks to aquatic organisms and possibly other lepidopteran receptors.

### **LBAM IN AN INVASIVE SPECIES CONTEXT**

Dr. Robert Dowell gave a presentation, which provided an overview of the invasive species problem facing California. There are over 1,200 exotic invertebrates breeding in California including many familiar insects such as the honeybee, American cockroach, housefly, green peach aphid, codling moth and cabbage butterfly. Other familiar exotic pests include the house mouse, roof rat, pigeon, house sparrow, bullfrog, carp, catfish, yellow starthistle, wild oat and dandelion. CDFA targets only about 1 in 33 of these invertebrates for eradication. Dr. Dowell also covered the CDFA pest prevention program that aims to keep exotic pests from successfully invading the state. Although no exclusion effort is 100% successful, the CDFA program has reduced the annual rate of invasion of exotic invertebrates from 1/3 to 1/4 that is seen elsewhere.

## **LBAM MAPPING**

Ms. Rocky Broadway from the United States Department of Agriculture gave a presentation on what information is needed to successfully map the LBAM project. The topics discussed include information on base layers that the requested maps need and the concepts behind Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and how they relate to the LBAM project. Ms. Colleen Murphy-Vierra presented a series of maps based on the trapping data from the date of the first LBAM findings through the end of December 2007. This data was presented in a time series that showed the progression of the data.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT UPDATE**

Mr. Jim Rains informed the EATF that there has been a limited amount of progress on the environmental impact report due to the holidays and illness.

## **TO-DO LIST AND EATF RECOMMENDATIONS**

Dr. Leavitt reviewed the to-do list from the November 15, 2007, meeting with the EATF (see handout). The EATF members then made the following recommendations:

**MOTION:** Ted Batkin moved that CDFA and EATF sponsor an LBAM research conference. The motion was amended by Dr. Robert V. Dowell and seconded by Henrik Kibak. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Mark Lipson moved that CDFA start a pheromone aerial mating disruption treatment post application-monitoring program with both aquatic and environmental components. The motion was amended by Steve Shimek and seconded by Dennis Davie. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Rayne Thompson moved that CDFA work towards creating a coalition on invasive species, perhaps including an invasive species council. The motion was seconded by Greg Van Wassenhove and passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Susan Ellis moved that the Secretary of CDFA, A.G. Kawamura, work to strengthen the pest prevention program. The motion was amended by Greg Van Wassenhove and seconded by Camron King. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Jim Cochran moved that CDFA continue the efforts to develop new tools to augment or replace aerial pheromone disruption treatments and improve the formulation of the current pheromone. The motion was seconded by Laurie Gibson and passed unanimously.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next LBAM Environmental Advisory Task Force meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2008, at the Marriott Hotel in Monterey, CA.